

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO USIA WASHDC

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UNCLAS BUCHAREST 2623

USIA FOR IOA/SS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL RO

SUBJECT: RENOVATION AMERICAN LIBRARY ATTIC SPACE

REF: A) BUCHAREST 2425; B) STATE 131502

1. ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT AGENCY (ODCD) THROUGH WHICH WE HANDLE ALL REAL ESTATE MATTERS HAS LOANED US ORIGINAL BLUE PRINT OF LIBRARY ATTIC SPACE WE PROPOSE TO RENOVATE BUT HAS NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO PROVIDE DETAILED COST ESTIMATES; LATTER WILL BE PROVIDED UPON RECEIPT, HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE ODCD WILL NEED AT LEAST THREE WEEKS TO COMPLETE THEM ALTHOUGH THEY AGREE WITH US RE GLOBAL FIGURE OF \$18,000 FOR MORE THAN ADEQUATE OPENER.

2. ORIGINAL BLUE PRINTS BEING AIRSHIPPED SOONEST POUCH TO IOA/SS SINCE WE ARE UNABLE TO REPRODUCE THEM LOCALLY; REQUEST THAT THEY BE RETURNED WITH COPIES FOR OUR REFERENCE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

3. ATTIC SPACE RENOVATION INCLUDES PREPARATION OF TWO MAJOR PROGRAM ROOMS IN ADDITION TO BATHROOMS (TWO) AND A STORAGE ROOM. MAJOR ROOMS WILL BE THIRTY-TWO FEET BY FIFTEEN AND TWENTY-NINE FEET BY FOURTEEN FEET. CONSTRUCTION WORK INVOLVED INCLUDES: LEVELING FLOORS BY INSTALLING SLAB OF REINFORCED CONCRETE; INSTALLATION OF BRICK WALLS AND LOWERING OF CEILING; INSTALLATION OF ACOUSTICAL INSULATED

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WOOD AND GLASS PARTITIONS AND DOORS; EXTENDING EXISTING

HEATING INSTALLATIONS USING HOT WATER AND PROVIDING NEW PIPES, RADIATORS AND ENLARGED HOT WATER TANK; LAYING OF CONCRETE FLOOR COVERED WITH LINOLEUM; INSTALLATION OF MEN AND WOMEN'S BATHROOMS WITH HOT AND COLD WATER; INSTALLATION OF STAIRCASE LEADING FROM SECOND FLOOR TO THIRD FLOOR ADEQUATE FOR GENERAL PUBLIC USE; KNOCKING OUT PARTS OF EXISTING BRICK WALLS TO ALLOW FOR INCREASED UTILIZATION OF SPACE. THE CURRENT ELECTRICAL SYSTEM IS ADEQUATE TO HANDLE INCREASED DEMANDS OF LIGHTING, AIR CONDITIONING AND PROGRAM EQUIPMENT. EXISTING WINDOWS WILL BE USED BUT POST FUNDS ABOVE AND BEYOND CONSTRUCTION COSTS WILL BE NEEDED FOR CEILING LIGHT FIXTURES, AIR CONDITIONING UNITS (FOUR) AND CARPETING AS WELL AS FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT. EACH ROOM WILL HAVE STORAGE SHELVES ALONG THE WALLS FOR TAPES, RECORDS AND MICROFILM.

4. THE MUSIC ROOM WOULD HAVE FIFTEEN-TWENTY LISTENING POSTS. THE POST IS UNSURE AT THIS TIME OF THE EXACT DESIGN (THE AGENCY WILL BE CONSULTED ON THIS) AS TO WHETHER INDIVIDUAL CHAIRS IN AN INFORMAL SURROUNDING IS PREFERABLE TO AN ARRANGEMENT OF LONG TABLES WITH TEN CHAIRS ON EACH SIDE. THE LIBRARIAN'S DESK AREA WILL BE LOCATED IN THE BOTTOM PORTION OF THE DIAGRAM SITUATED SO THAT SHE CAN SIMULTANEOUSLY OBSERVE BOTH OPERATIONS. TO HER LEFT WILL BE THE MICROFILM ROOM (BOTTOM PART OF DIAGRAM) AND HERE WE CONTEMPLATE IN ADDITION TO TWO PIECES OF EQUIPMENT, TWO CHAIRS FOR THE READING MACHINES AND ONE OR TWO TABLES WITH SIX TO TEN CHAIRS AVAILABLE WHERE PEOPLE CAN CONSULT CATALOGS. PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL READERS MIGHT BE CONSIDERED AT A LATER DATE BUT THEY OCCUPY A RELATIVELY SMALL SPACE.

5. IN LIGHT OF EXPANDING RELATIONS BETWEEN U.S. AND ROMANIA IN ALL FIELDS AS ILLUSTRATED BY COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWING WEDNESDAY MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENTS FORD AND CEAUSESCU AND WITH INCREASED IMPORTANCE OF AMERICAN LIBRARY AS OUR PRINCIPAL INSTITUTION FOR DAILY CONTACT WITH SIGNIFICANT ROMANIAN AUDIENCES, SUGGESTED EXTENSION OF OUR SERVICES TO ROMANIAN PUBLIC THROUGH PROPOSED RENOVATION COMPORTS WITH THE QUALITY AND MOMENTUM OF OUR GROWING POLITICO-CULTURAL CONTACTS.

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